light, the diafragms, in the internal ſmall tubes, may be eaſily diſcerned.

The outer leaves are greatly ſwollen and dilated at the baſe, as at a, b, c; where the fructification is lodged. The ſtile and ſtigma are placed in the hollow part of the baſe of the outer leaves; the germin is ſupported by a cordate valve, or flower-cup, as at e; and the edges of the inflated baſe, of theſe outer or female leaves, is a thin fine membrane, which ſo cloſely embraces and ſurrounds the gibous part of the male leaf within as to exclude the water.

The inner or male leaf, b, opens on the outer or gibous ſide of the baſe, within the embraces of the female leaf. Its fructification conſiſts of a roundiſh anthera, without filament; and it reſts on a cordate valve or flower-cup, ſimilar to that of the female. By the above admirable contrivance, the two flowers come in near contact with each other, and, though in the bottom of deep lakes, are ſecured from the intruſion of the water.

The ſeed-veſſel is of an oblong form, conſiſting of two valves, filled with white globular ſeeds; each of which is girt round with a prominent ring, as at d. After the diſcharge of the ſeeds, the outer leaves fall off and periſh, and the next in order perform the ſame office a ſucceeding year; and the number of leaves is kept up by a ſupply of young ones from the centre.

Grows in lakes on high mountains. I have dragged it out of ſeveral lakes on *Snowden*, and it has been ſent me from *Weſtmoreland*.